

College Completion Report

Results and Key Takeaways

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June 10, 2021

2021 COMPLETION REPORT

ABOUT THE REPORT



INDIANA COMMISSION *for*
HIGHER EDUCATION

RECENT COLLEGE GRADUATES

- ▶ What percentage of students **graduate on-time**?
- ▶ What percentage of students **graduate in extended-time**?
- ▶ **Are the rates improving** over time?



WHY IT'S IMPORTANT

- ▶ Completion rates help tell us whether students have the **resources, opportunities and support they need.**
- ▶ Achievement gaps point out **systemic failures that need to be addressed.**
- ▶ College outcomes have **an enormous and growing influence on Indiana's economic future.**

DATA USED

- ▶ Data comes from Indiana publics and National Student Clearinghouse
- ▶ Focuses on first-time, full-time students who sought a degree-seeking upon entering college
- ▶ **Focuses on 2020 graduates:**
 - ▶ **On-time** (same campus/same degree): Started in Fall 2016 (4yr) or Fall 2018 (2yr)
 - ▶ **Extended 6-year** (any campus/any degree): Started in Fall 2014

COVID-19

- ▶ These students graduated in the 2019-20 academic year - as the pandemic began
- ▶ The pandemic does not appear to have affected graduation rates for 2020 graduates
- ▶ CHE will closely monitor student cohorts that have not yet graduated

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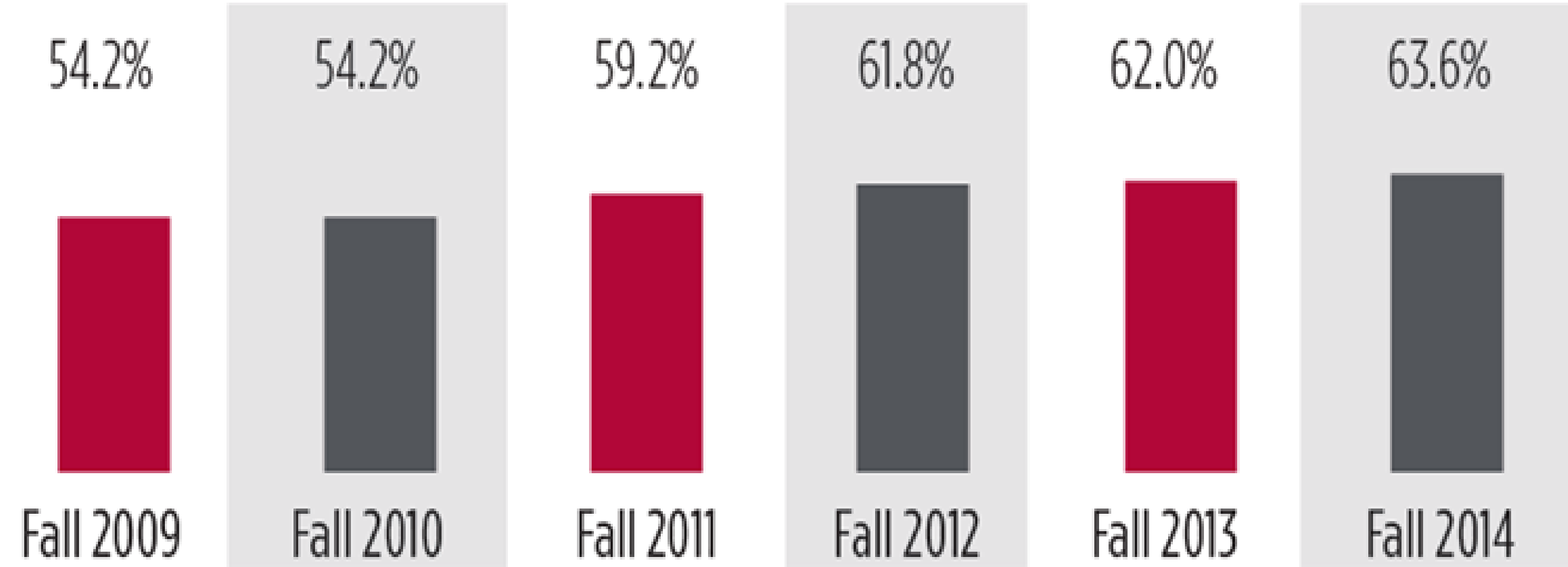
COMPLETION RATES



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EXTENDED-TIME COMPLETION RATES ARE IMPROVING

Statewide Average



Four year colleges

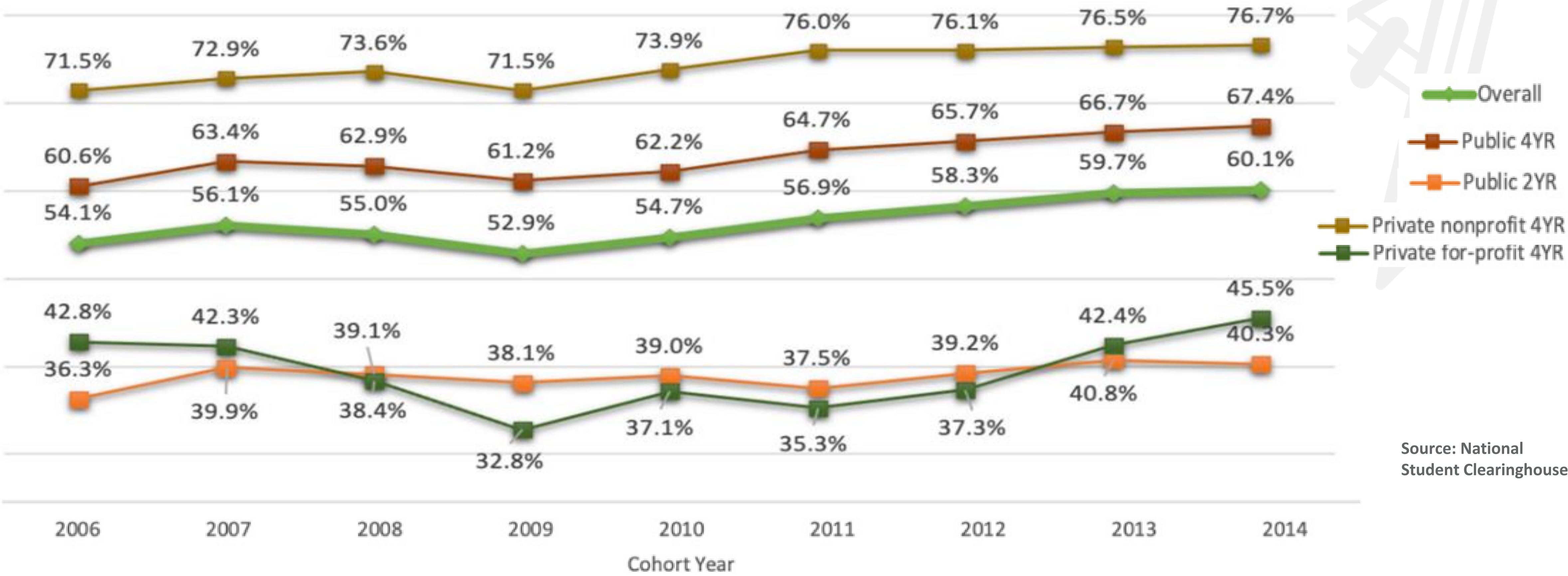
71.7%

Two year colleges

37.5%

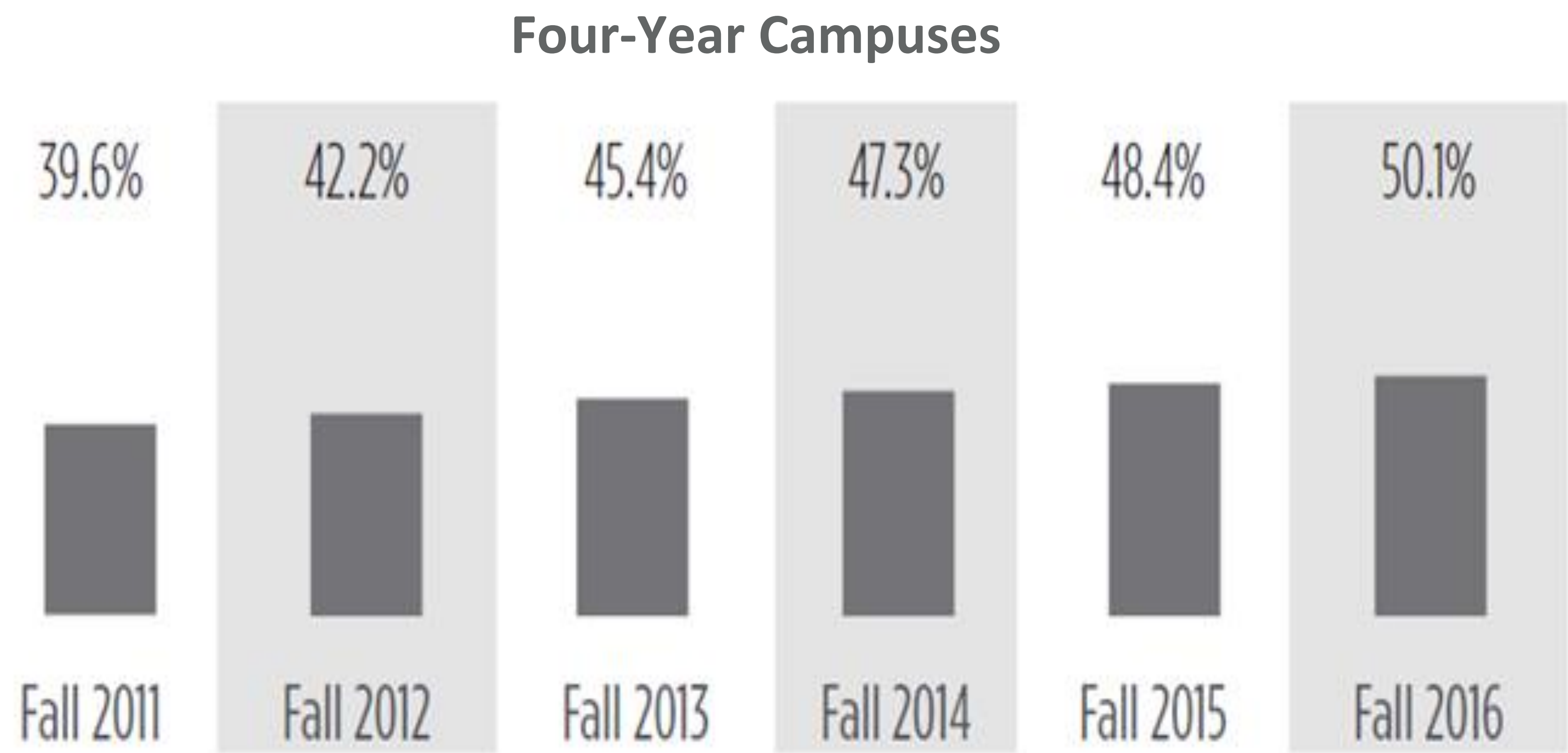


NATIONAL EXTENDED-TIME RATES



Source: National Student Clearinghouse

ON-TIME COMPLETION RATES ARE IMPROVING



LEADING INDICATOR: PERSISTENCE

- ▶ 79.9% of students* return for a **second year of college**
 - ▶ *who are pursuing a degree or long-term certificate
 - ▶ 68.2% of Black students
 - ▶ 76.9% of Hispanic and Latino students
 - ▶ 77.3% of 21st Century Scholars
 - ▶ 53.6% of Adult students



IU SOUTH BEND

- ▶ 46.8% extended-time rate
 - ▶ An improvement of 12pp in five years

IU South Bend



● 47.3% HIGHER INCOME
● 31.2% OTHER LOW INCOME (PELL)
● 21.6% 21ST CENTURY SCHOLAR

All Four-Year Campuses



● 65.9% HIGHER INCOME
● 18.6% OTHER LOW INCOME (PELL)
● 15.5% 21ST CENTURY SCHOLAR

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EQUITY GAPS



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EQUITY GAPS

- ▶ Despite improving completion rates, many gaps persist
- ▶ Four-year institutions:
 - ▶ Black student on-time and extended rates are about 20pp behind the average
 - ▶ Hispanic and Latino student on-time and extended rates are about 10pp behind the average
- ▶ Two-year institutions:
 - ▶ Hispanic and Latino students generally do as well or better than the average
- ▶ This will be a focus of the upcoming 2021 Equity Report

SCHOLARS

- ▶ 21st Century Scholars outpace their low-income peers
- ▶ Scholars' on-time and extended-time completion rates are above average at two-year institutions
- ▶ At Purdue West Lafayette, Scholars have essentially closed the graduation gap
 - ▶ 61.8% of Scholars graduate on-time, compared to 62.7% overall
 - ▶ 85% of Scholars graduate in six years, compared to 87.7% overall

PART-TIME STUDENTS

- ▶ More likely to be **Low-Income**
- ▶ More likely to be **Black**
- ▶ More likely to be **Over Age 25 When Starting**
- ▶ 25.9% graduated in extended time (6 years)
- ▶ Leading indicator:
 - ▶ 44.2% of part-time students come back for a second year of college



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IMPACT ON THE STATE



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THE IMPACT TO HOOSIERS

- ▶ **The longer college takes, the more it can cost** and the less likely it is the student will ever graduate.
- ▶ Last year's improvement in on-time completion saved graduates **an estimated \$4.5 million in tuition, fees, and other education expenses.**
- ▶ College graduates earn more and are **more likely to have jobs than can be done remotely.**



CONSUMER SPENDING AND TAX BASE

- ▶ Compared to someone with high school diploma...
 - ▶ **Associates earners add an extra \$251,447** to the economy over their lifetime
 - ▶ **Bachelor's earners add an extra \$700,443** to the economy over their lifetime
- ▶ Most Indiana college graduates stay in Indiana and contribute to its economy

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RECOMMENDATIONS



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RECOMMENDATIONS

- ▶ Focus on affordability – including low tuition and fees, strong financial aid, and helping more students file the FAFSA
- ▶ Strengthen student support – including internships and work-based learning; mental health services; career services; and College Scholars Success Program
- ▶ Close equity gaps – including provide actionable information; encourage participation in 21st Century Scholars; outreach to students; and grow the diversity of Indiana’s teachers
- ▶ Promote access to and use of dual credit, Prior Learning Assessments (PLA), and transfer single articulation pathways (TSAP)



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